ANTICIPATORY ACTION · TROPICAL CYCLONES · FIJI

The 2025–26 cyclone season: how close did the trigger come?

RSMC Nadi sent forecasts for two cyclones near Fiji: **Urmil** in February and **Vaianu** in April. We step through every forecast and check it against the trigger.

REMINDER

What would have activated the framework

Readiness

≥ 5,000 people in the zone forecast to get **64-kt** (hurricane-force) winds, in the **120-hour** forecast

Action

The same, within the first **72 hours**

Observational

≥ 190 mm of rain over two days, averaged over the whole country

On each forecast slide: the number of people in the 64-kt zone, and how far the 64-kt winds stayed from land. 64 knots (118 km/h) is the minimum for a Category 3 cyclone.

2025–26 SEASON

13 forecasts, no activation

CYCLONE	FORECASTS	STRONGEST FORECAST	CLOSEST CENTRE TO LAND	MOST PEOPLE IN 64-KT ZONE
Urmil	4 · 27–28 Feb	Category 2	430 km	**0**
Vaianu	9 · 5–8 Apr	Category 3	195 km	**0**

Threshold: 5,000 people. Times are Fiji time, when the forecast was issued.

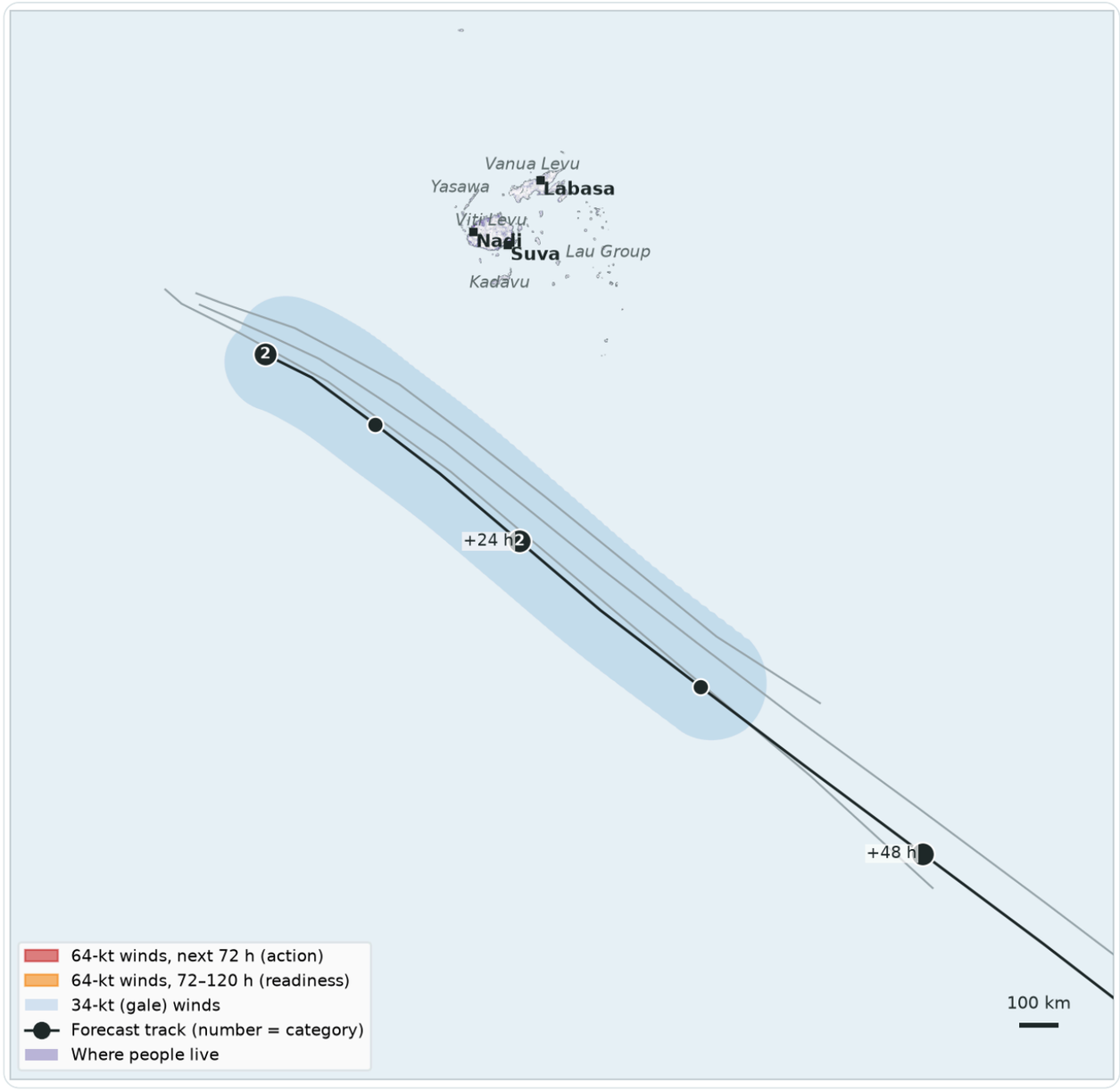
CYCLONE URMIL · 27–28 FEBRUARY

Never close

All 4 forecasts kept Urmil far to the south-west and south of Fiji, at most **Category 2** — no hurricane-force winds were forecast at all. Its centre stayed at least **430 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

Map: latest forecast in black, earlier forecasts in grey.



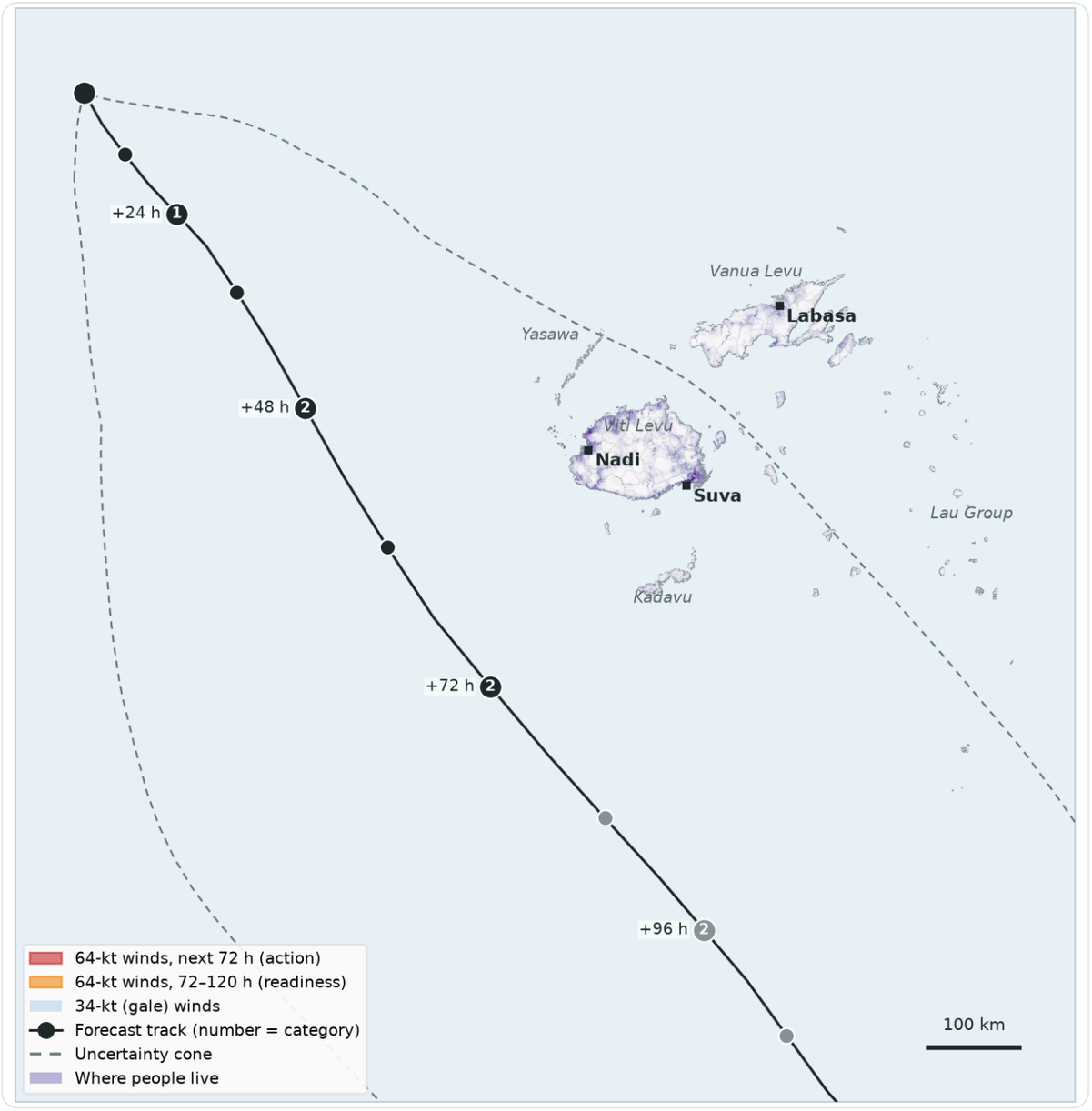
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE 11F · FORECAST 1 OF 9

Sun 5 Apr, 18:00

First forecast, before the system was named: forecast to reach Category 2 west of Fiji, with no hurricane-force winds.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

How close? No 64-kt winds forecast. Storm centre 200 km from land at its closest.



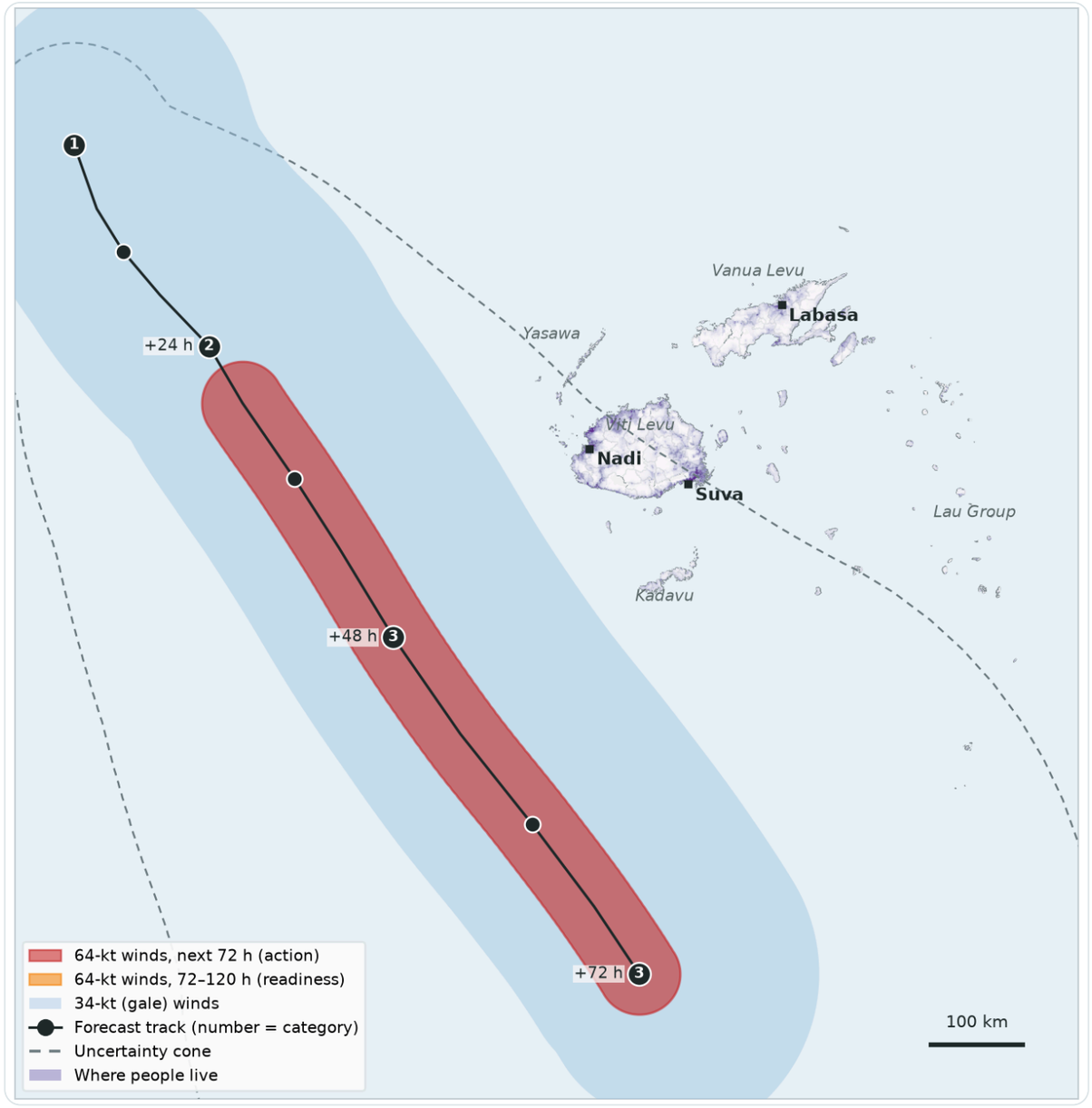
VAIANU · FORECAST 2 OF 9

Mon 6 Apr, 00:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **215 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **215 km** from land. Storm centre 260 km from land at its closest.



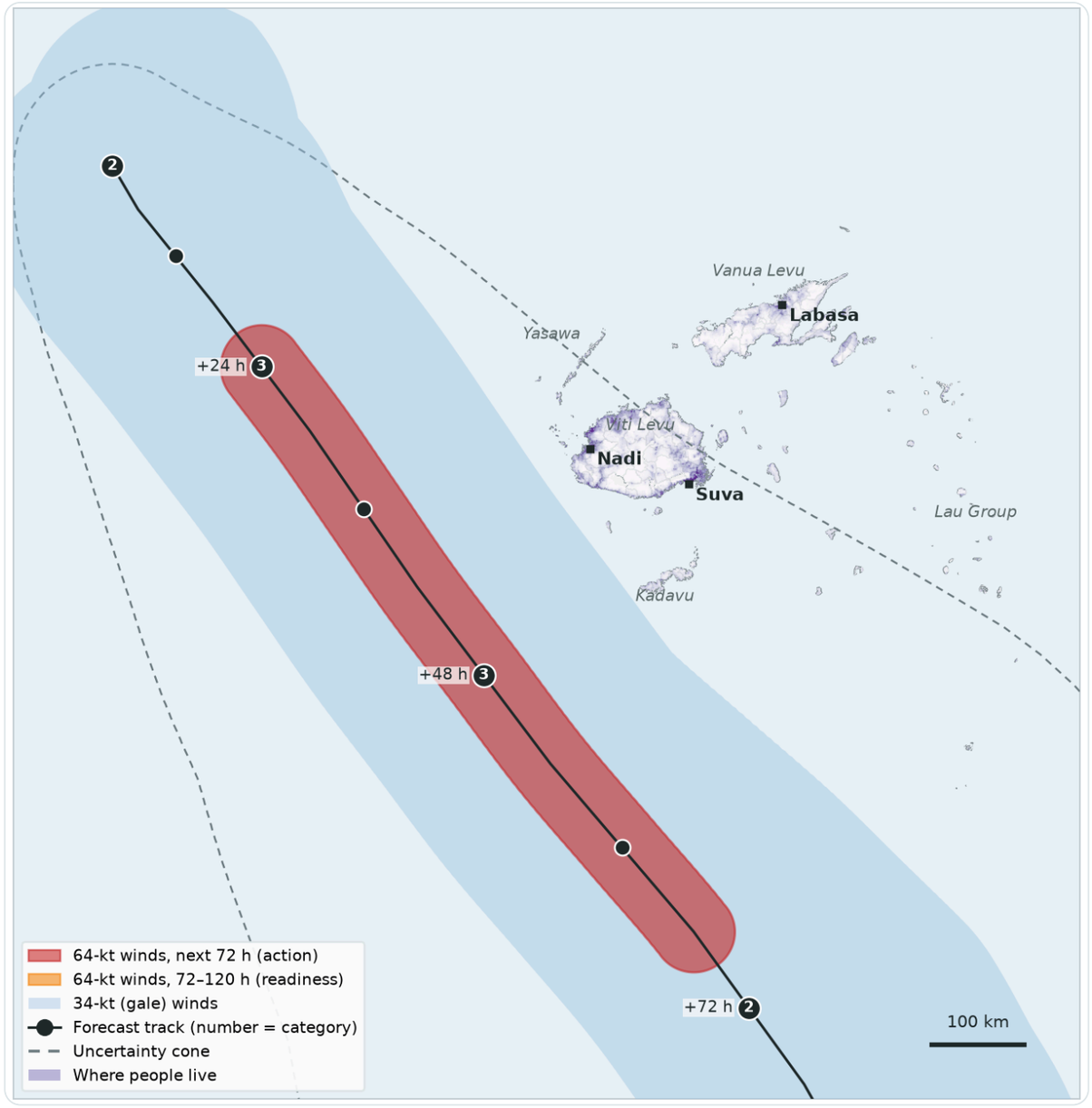
VAIANU · FORECAST 3 OF 9

Mon 6 Apr, 06:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **155 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

How close? 64-kt winds **155 km** from land. Storm centre 200 km from land at its closest.



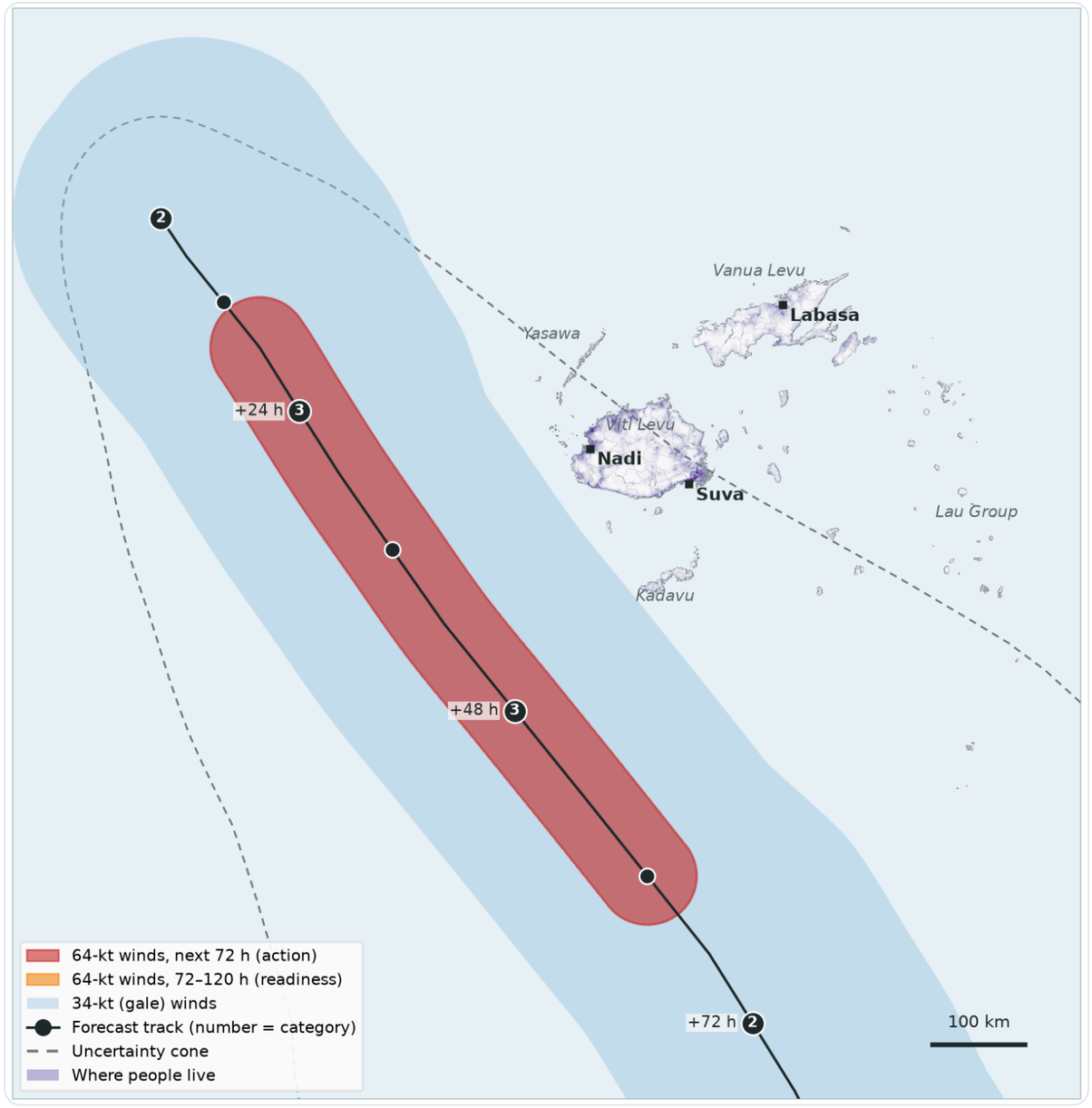
VAIANU · FORECAST 4 OF 9

Mon 6 Apr, 12:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **140 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **140 km** from land. Storm centre 195 km from land at its closest.



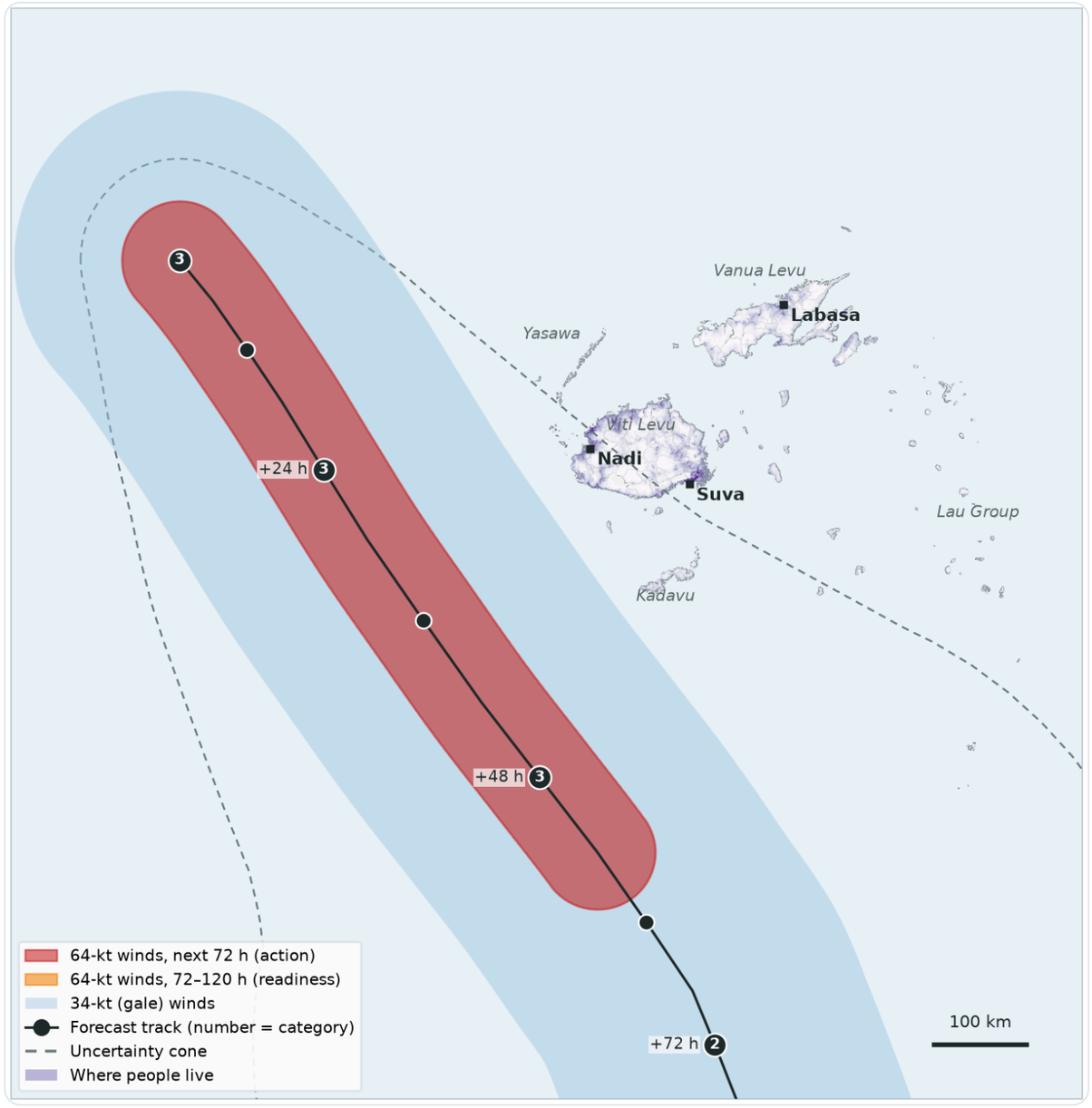
VAIANU · FORECAST 5 OF 9

Mon 6 Apr, 18:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **155 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **155 km** from land. Storm centre 220 km from land at its closest.



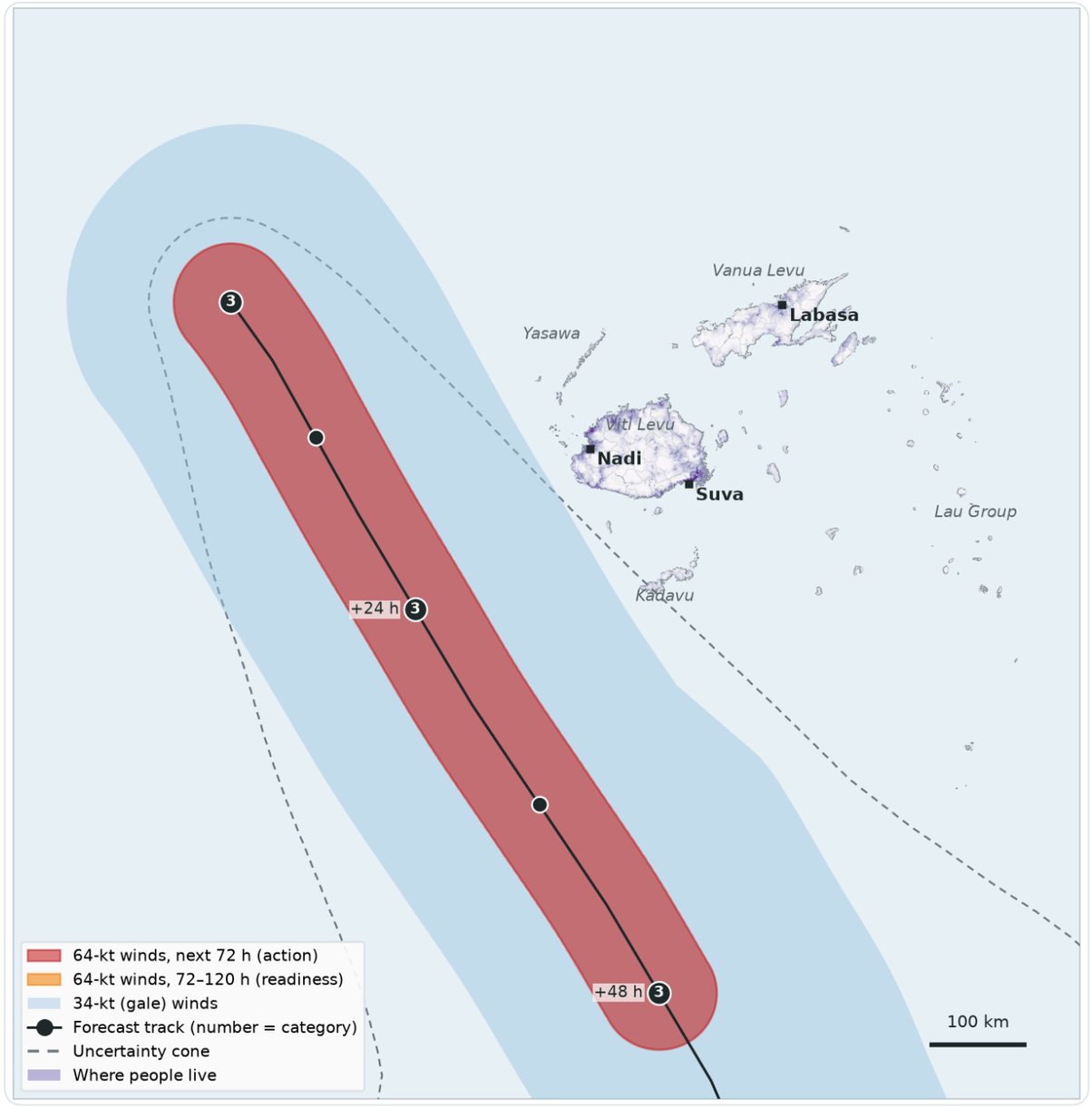
VAIANU · FORECAST 6 OF 9

Tue 7 Apr, 00:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **165 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **165 km** from land. Storm centre 230 km from land at its closest.



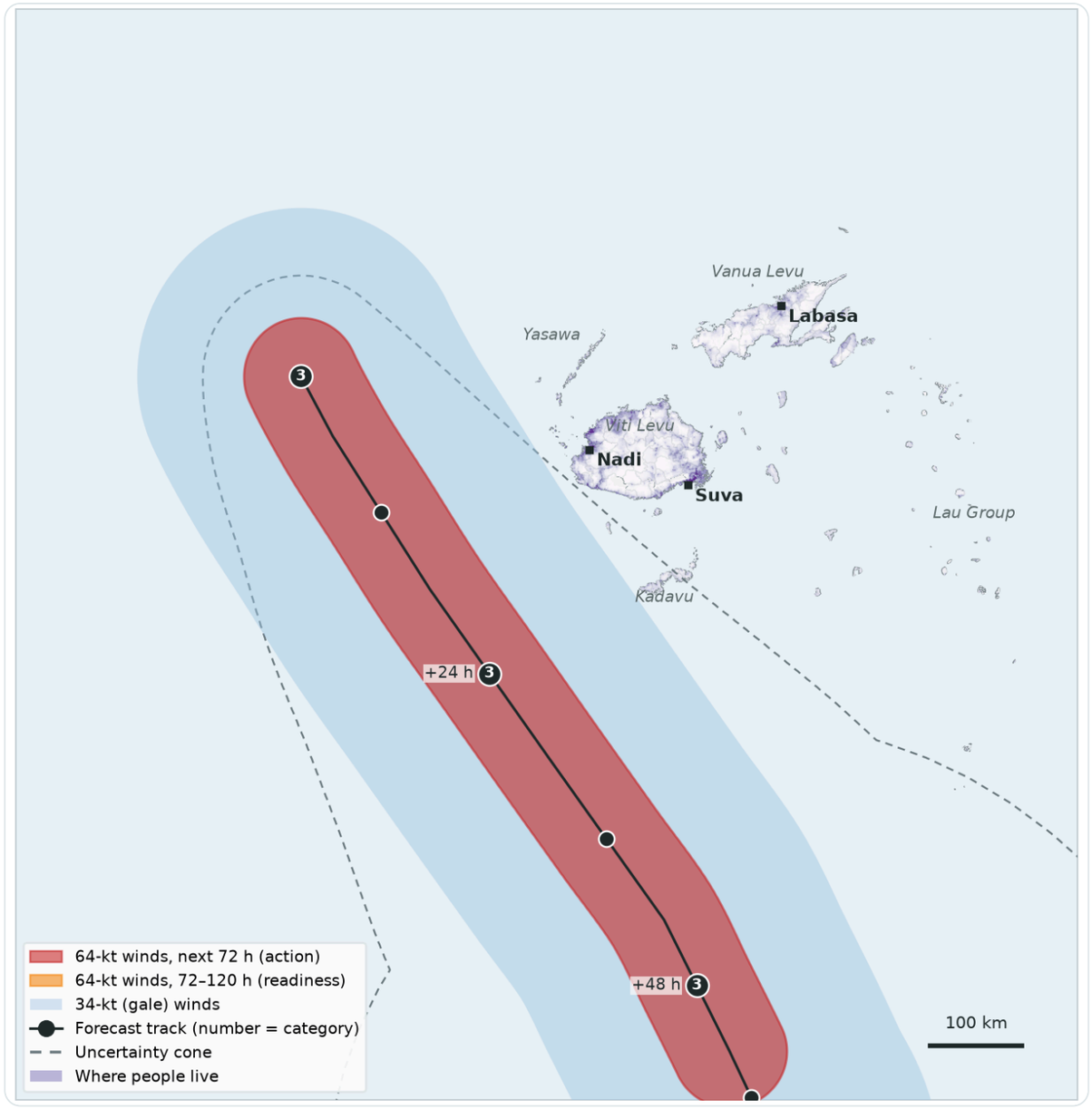
VAIANU · FORECAST 7 OF 9

Tue 7 Apr, 06:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **130 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

How close? 64-kt winds **130 km** from land. Storm centre 195 km from land at its closest.



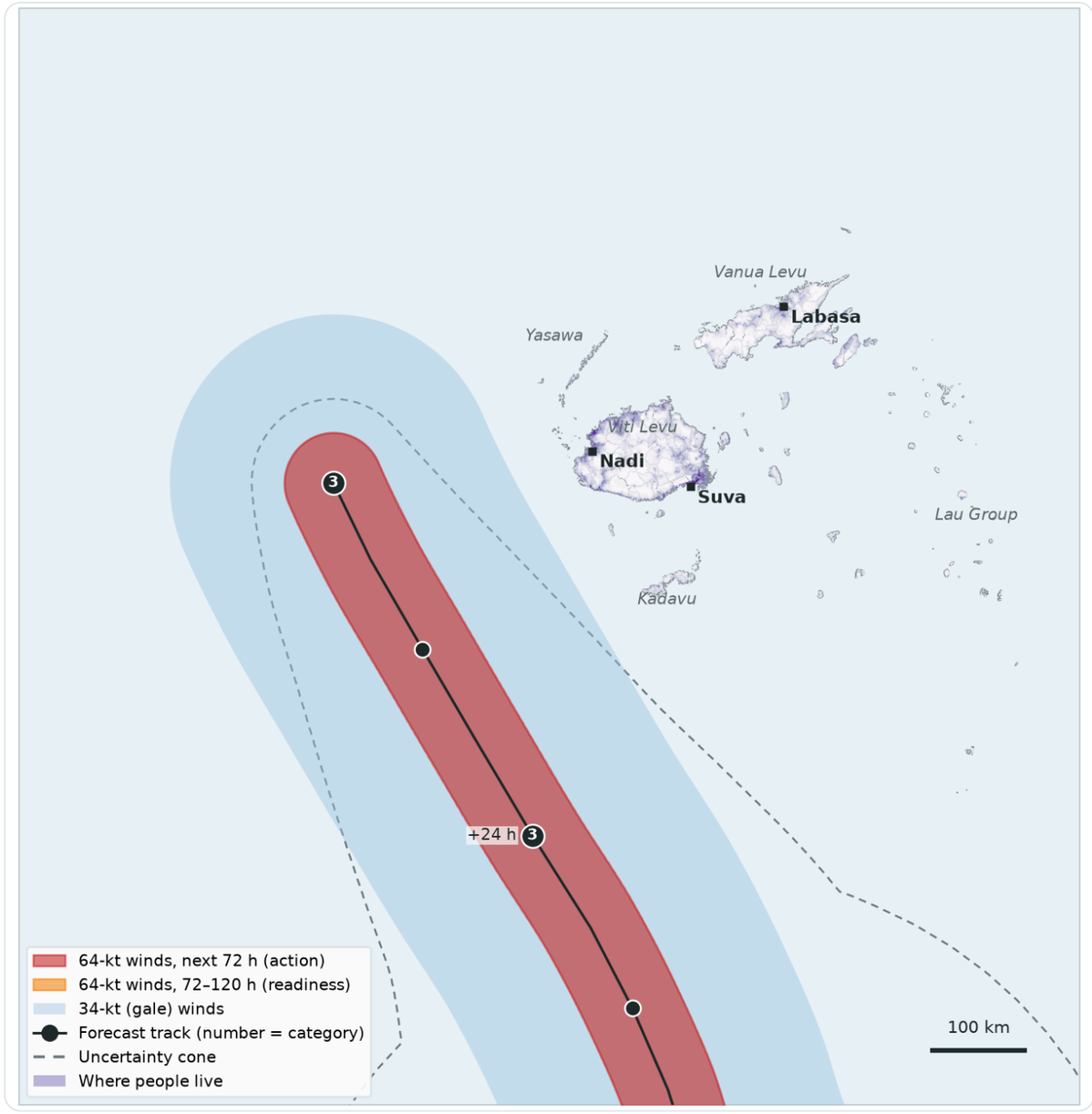
VAIANU · FORECAST 8 OF 9

Tue 7 Apr, 12:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **190 km** from land.

TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **190 km** from land. Storm centre 250 km from land at its closest.



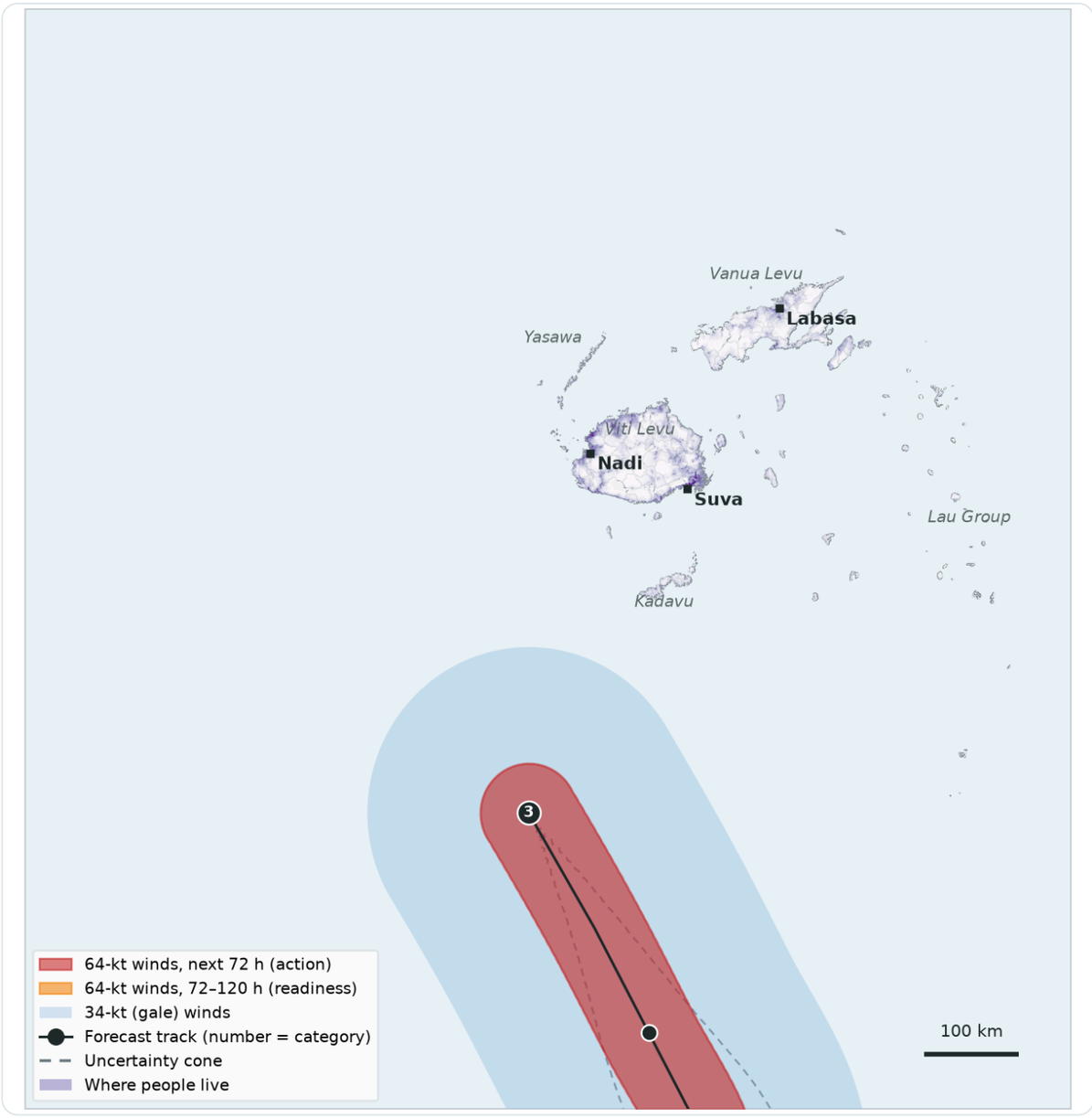
VAIANU · FORECAST 9 OF 9

Wed 8 Apr, 06:00

Forecast as a **Category 3** passing west and south of Viti Levu. Its hurricane-force winds stay **220 km** from land.

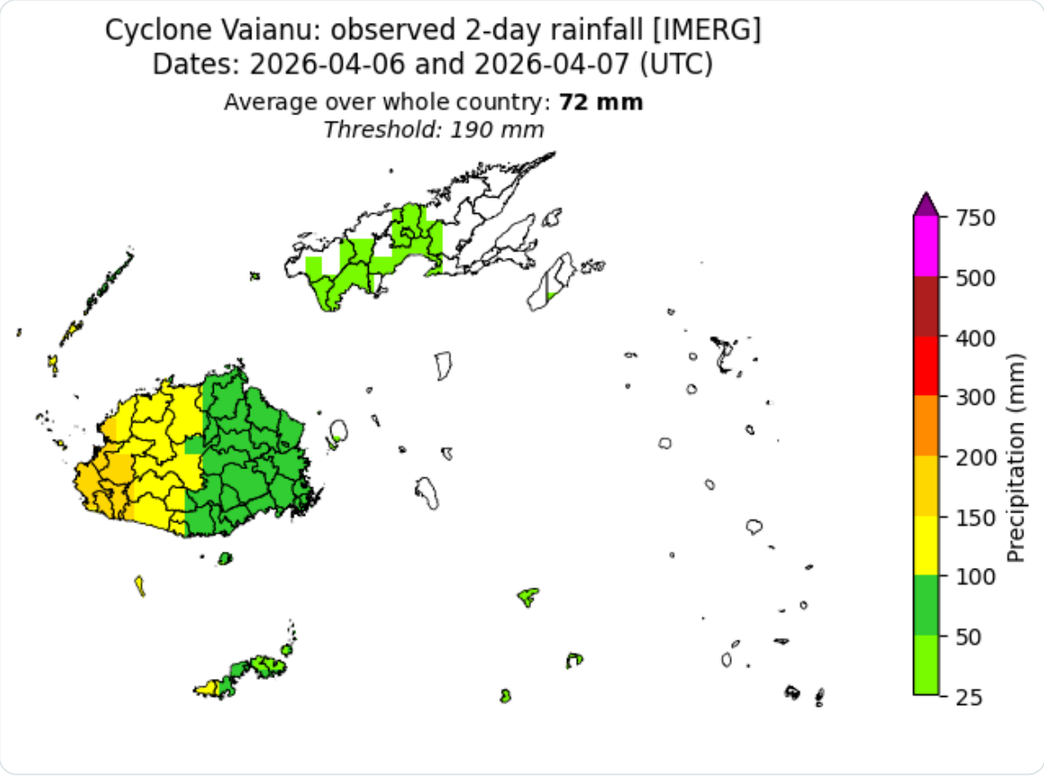
TRIGGER	THIS FORECAST	STATUS
Readiness 120-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Action 72-hour forecast	**0** people in 64-kt zone threshold 5,000	Not reached
Observational 2-day rainfall	IMERG satellite, checked daily	–

> **How close?** 64-kt winds **220 km** from land. Storm centre 275 km from land at its closest.

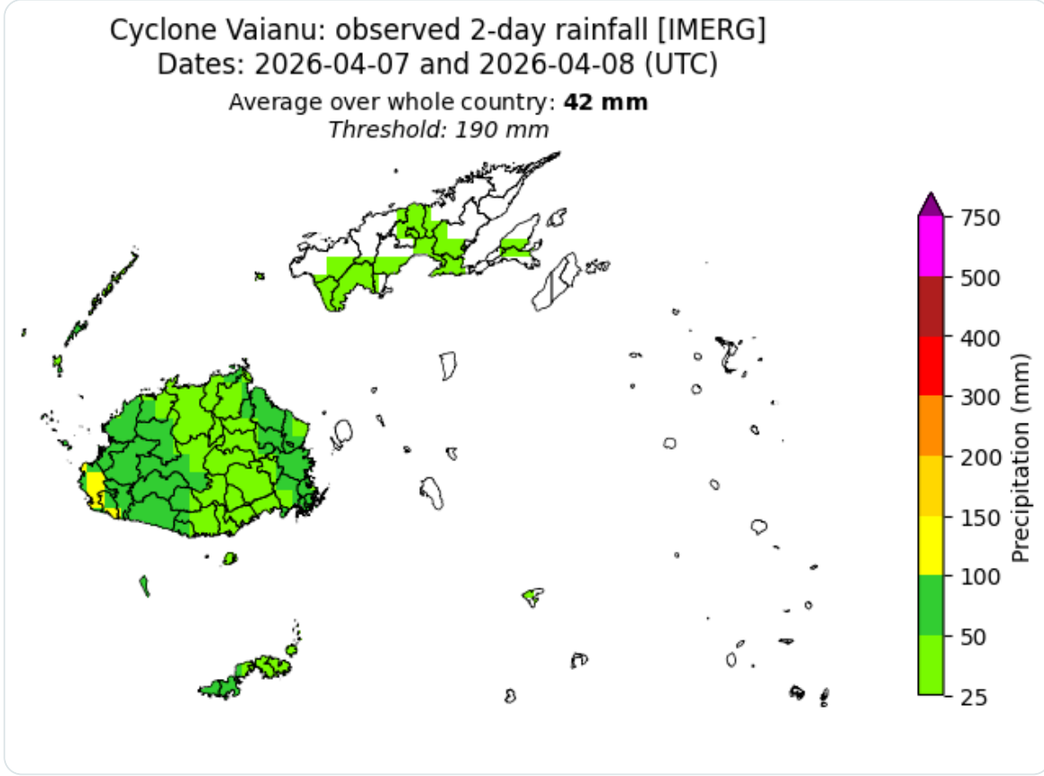


VAIANU · OBSERVATIONAL TRIGGER

Heavy rain in western Viti Levu — but far below the threshold



6–7 Apr: 72 mm country average (threshold 190 mm)

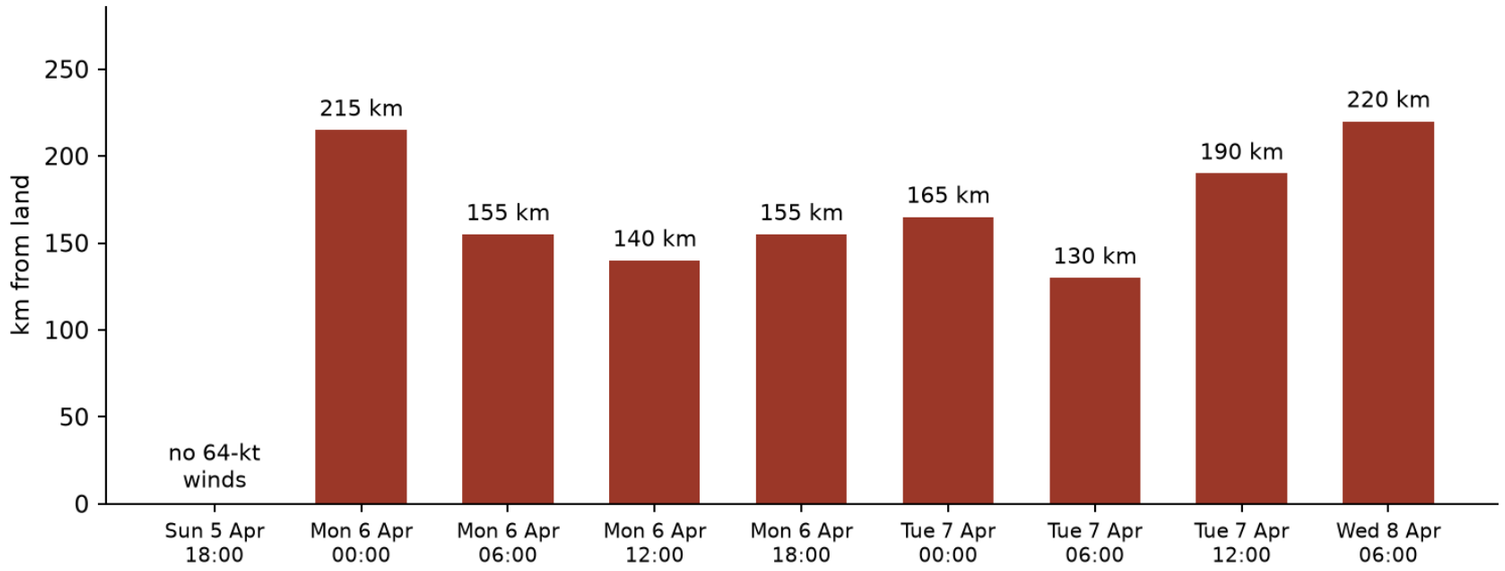


7–8 Apr: 42 mm country average (threshold 190 mm)

NASA IMERG satellite rainfall, as sent in the observational information emails on 7 and 8 April.

SUMMARY

Vaianu came closest — and it was not close



Every one of the 13 forecasts had **0 people** in the 64-kt zone (threshold 5,000). Vaianu's hurricane-force winds stayed **130 km or more** offshore.

Only the uncertainty cone's worst case reached populated areas, on 6–7 April. The trigger uses the forecast track itself, so this alone does not activate.

Rainfall peaked at **72 mm** (2-day country average), against 190 mm.